

Approved For Release 2000/06/13 : CIA-RDP75-0  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

13 APRIL 1965

CPYRGHT

## McCone Steps Aside

PRESIDENT JOHNSON has announced that Vice Adm. William F. Raborn, Jr., retired, will succeed John A. McCone as director of the Central Intelligence Agency as soon as the Senate confirms Raborn's appointment. McCone should not be allowed to step aside without considerable expression of appreciation—from within and without the government—for his dedicated and effective service.

*McCone, who is retiring at the age of 63 to look after his private interests here and elsewhere on the West Coast, has been called by knowledgeable observers the most efficient director in C. I. A. history.*

He took over the giant spy agency at a time when it was in exceedingly low repute as a result of the Bay of Pigs fiasco. Without visible fuss, McCone effected necessary changes. The C. I. A. now enjoys its highest degree of White House and public confidence since the Cuban misadventure.

Earlier, under the Eisenhower administration, McCone had served as chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission. He returned to public life only at the urging of the late President Kennedy, who needed a strong hand to revitalize the C. I. A. He served at a financial sacrifice. He not only did not seek publicity, but went out of his way to discourage it.

*He merits the nation's thanks.*